



The Bethel Courier.

Volume X, Number 2

Summer 1986

Bethel Historical Society

HIGHLIGHTS OF 150 YEARS: GOULD ACADEMY 1836-1986

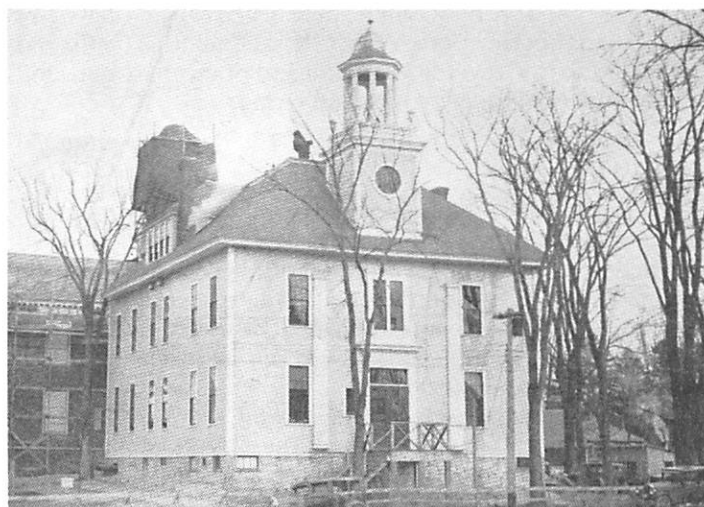
Editor's Note: Gould Academy was founded 150 years ago this year. Since 1836 the Academy facilities have greatly changed. The original building was dismantled in 1881 and replaced by a structure that stood for over fifty years. The present Hanscom Hall was built on the site of the original building and its successor. Today the campus consists of eight brick buildings and numerous other wooden structures built or acquired largely through the generosity of William Bingham II (1879-1955). For many of its 150 years the Academy functioned as the town's high school but is now an independent school. The photographs and memories included in this issue are intended to provide some insight into the history of this much-beloved Bethel institution. Some reminiscences have been edited to conform to space considerations, but the full texts have been preserved in the Society's archives.

"The trustees held a meeting last evening, and came to the conclusion that as, for the last nine months, students of the Academy, had been guilty of Sabbath breaking, injuring public & private property, disturbing school and lyceum, meeting at each other's rooms, insulting neighbors, strangers and fellow students, and secretly taking the tongue of the bell, that unless the bell's tongue was restored before Monday morning next, those persons who were guilty of the latter should be expelled, and the other laws rigidly enforced. However I am not scared a bit for I am not guilty of any one of them. Who stole the tongue I don't know, and I don't think the trustees do. I for one am glad that this new law, or rather notice that old laws will be enforced, has been made, for I think there will be quite a number of rowdies that will leave, for the reason 'they have to go to meeting.' The rowdies say they won't go to meeting unless Dr. True pulls them there. Never mind we'll see tomorrow."

Quoted by John Mead Gould, Bethel, June 9,
permission of the 1854 letter to his parents in
Maine Historical Society Portland

"I thank God tonight that there was an Academy, and a teacher, in this town, where a boy could come and be respected. I have met my old schoolmates all over this land, and never speak to them but in gratitude to our old teacher. I owe much to him for his talks on Mineralogy, for I have remembered them and been able to make them practical in the great dips of the Rocky Mountains. I am delighted to be here; some of my pleasantest memories of my life are associated with this town, with Gould's Academy, and especially with our teacher, Dr. True, to whom we all as with one voice of gratitude, extend our benediction now and forever."

Liberty E. Holden of Cleveland,
Ohio at the "Reunion of the Schol-
ars of Gould's Academy", Bethel,
Maine, 1884



Building Hanscom Hall, 1933

"My years at Gould as a pupil (1914-1918) were overshadowed by World War I. Members of our class as well as those in classes above enlisted and went to war. It was considered patriotic to correspond with those in the service so Dorothy Hutchins and I not only wrote our classmates but obtained lists of those in the service from other states. Thus we spent many hours writing letters and of course had to compare answers as soon as possible. One morning when the whole school was assembled for morning exercises with my father at his desk on the podium, Dorothy and I became very daring and were passing back and forth the latest letters received. We thought we were doing this so carefully that we would not be detected. One can imagine our surprise and chagrin when we heard my father's voice, 'If there is any news from the front we would all like to hear it.'"

Kathryn Hanscom Bailey '18

"In September 1920, I first saw the inside of Gould Academy (then called Gould's Academy). For a short time each year, I was one of a small group who commuted by train, always arriving after the morning session had started, bringing our lunches, and departing on the train which left soon after 4 P.M. When the train schedule changed, boarded in a private home in Bethel during the week. It was not easy to participate in extracurricular activities, and so I missed that side of education.

"The outside of Gould's main building was very plain. The first floor contained the assembly hall, a small library, coat-rooms, and stairways. An annex on the Elm Street side contained the science laboratory in the basement, and upstairs was a classroom called the 'New Room.' A stairway from the laboratory led to the New Room and a back entrance to the assembly hall. When important programs were in progress, we

(continued on page 2)

commuters were expected to enter quietly by this roundabout way. On the second floor were one large classroom and two small ones, known respectively as the 'Freshmen', 'Trustees', and 'Normal' rooms, plus a storage and workroom containing some science and natural history items. The third floor was used as a gymnasium but was later converted into at least three classrooms."

Emeline V. Heath '24

"I recall (1) the first organized Winter Carnival at Gould in 1923, (2) the hazards of basketball in the old gym with its large posts at the four corners, (3) being given the option of picking rocks on the new athletic field in lieu of gym class, (4) the required declamations, (5) the basketball trips on the old Grand Trunk to Groveton, Portland and points between, and (6) the luxury of the new Bingham Gymn."

Charles S. Haselton '26

"Morning assemblies at Gould stand out in my memory. The faculty sat in front of the room facing the students who had assigned seats by classes with the Freshmen in front and the Seniors in back. Besides the daily responsive reading, Lord's prayer and announcements, each student was to be prepared with a quotation and never knew when he or she might be called on to stand up and recite from memory. Students also had to learn two poems or readings during the year, approved and coached by a faculty member. These were presented in front of the entire school. There were also special programs and occasional visiting speakers. I remember instruction was given at several assemblies in parliamentary procedure so we would know the rules for conducting a meeting. In later years when driving by myself I would often attempt to think of a quotation starting with each letter of the alphabet. Between the quotations learned at Gould and Bible verses, I was sometimes able to succeed with the exception of the letters 'x' and 'y'."

Dorothy Hanscom Jones '26

"I have many special memories of my years at Gould Academy, but one I wish to recall took place near the end of my junior year. 'Prof' Hanscom, who taught our Latin class, had announced that the final exam would be given shortly and he warned us to be prepared as it could be difficult. It would cover Cicero's orations, which we had struggled with for some time. As we were a competitive group, each trying to out-rank the other, we really studied for this exam. Any test given by 'Prof' Hanscom was never easy. Finally the day came when, paper and pen, we sat expecting the worst. We were informed that the exam would consist of one statement a copy of which was placed, print concealed, on each desk. He told us to turn them over and start. The following is what we read: THE CHARACTER AND QUALITY OF YOUR WORK IN LATIN DURING THE PAST TERM AND YEAR WARRANT ME IN EXCUSING YOU FROM THE FINAL WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS. F.E. HANSCOM What a relief! What a joy! No Latin final! Our diligence to Cicero

EDITOR'S CORNER

We have preserved in this issue a number of memories of Gould Academy and I am certain there are many others who could recall other aspects of its past. I am hoping that this issue will inspire readers to respond and send any recollections to the Society for possible publication in the future.

SRH

had really paid off. Frank E. Hanscom was a most dedicated instructor who encouraged students to reach their full potential in whatever they chose to do. He was deeply concerned that each one should be an asset and not a liability to society. I shall always be grateful for the lessons I learned from this fine teacher and friend."

Edna Bean York '27

"Do they still give demerits at Gould? I got some, unfairly. But when balanced against what I 'got away with', I couldn't complain except for the inconvenience of not being able to go home with a friend for the weekend or a holiday. Alas, I was much too mischievous and self-centered at the time to realize how lucky I was to live in Bethel and, incidentally, to go to Gould."

Elizabeth Delano Whiteman '31

"One of 'Professor' Hanscom's favorite rhymes which he recited as he looked at me:

A gum-chewing girl and a cud-chewing cow
Are quite alike, but different somehow.
What's the difference?

Oh yes, I see it now.

It's the thoughtful look on the face of the cow."

Phyllis Davis Dock '36

"Those of us who were at Gould during the mid-1930s had the unique privilege of going to school both in the old building and the new Hanscom Hall. When school opened in September 1933, the old building had been moved forward so that the front bordered the sidewalk on Church Street. This was done so that the new building could be constructed on its present site. It also meant that the back of the old building was only a few feet away from the actual construction.

"One of the things I recall most vividly about this year of transition was in Mrs. Thompson's English class in Room 'L' on the third floor. In the warm days of fall when the windows were open, the jack-hammers and other sounds from the new construction made so much noise that Mrs. Thompson had to shout in order to be heard. Often the decibel levels got pretty high; sometimes the hammering stopped abruptly and Mrs. Thompson would still be in full voice. However, as time went on, we became very used to this and class proceeded without incident as voices were lowered until the next 'jack-hammer attack'."

Rosalind Rowe Chapman '36

Mr. Frank E. Hanscom held our Latin classes in the main study hall. After forty years of teaching, it was child's play for him to hold a class and closely supervise a large study hall of students at the same time. He was a splendid teacher, and I shall go to my grave with complete command of the prepositions which take the accusative and the dative cases. To recite every day to a very demanding teacher before a large group of school mates was in itself something of a challenge and in the long run excellent training. The same end was achieved through public speaking, a course we all dreaded, but which helped me immeasurably over the years. The best way to learn how to speak in public is to speak in public, and Gould taught us well.

Margaret Joy Tibbetts '37

Edmond J. Vachon, Headmaster Emeritus of Gould Academy, recalls the day William Bingham II visited Gould:

"I first learned about William Bingham II when I arrived in Bethel in the summer of 1940. The man's name seemed to be on everyone's lips. Stories of his philanthropies to Gould

Academy, colleges, universities, medical facilities, libraries, students in need of scholarships, family assistance and charitable causes of every description abounded. Mr. Bingham was no doubt Bethel's best known citizen, but very few people had ever seen him let alone met him. Even Gould Academy, numbered among the principal recipients of his largesse, recorded only three appearances of its principal benefactor on campus to the time of my arrival, one to play a violin solo at a memorial service for Liberty Holden, after whom Holden Hall is named, and twice at ceremonies commemorating gifts to the school. And all three of these visits had taken place early in the twentieth century. Since that time, Mr. Bingham was only observed on occasion motoring down slowly on Church Street in his chauffeured car admiring the beautiful buildings which he made possible and the well-manicured campus ringed by mountains.

"Early in my association with Gould, I found out that the Academy was the focal point to address requests of all description for financial assistance because of its strategic location to the source. I became increasingly involved in fielding the merits of applications and in directing these through various channels to Mr. Bingham. This provided a rare opportunity to meet and discuss with him and advisors varying degrees of needs. I always came away from such meetings with the highest respect and admiration for a man so selflessly dedicated to the welfare of his fellow men.

"As the years advanced and Mr. Bingham's health began to fail, I searched for a perfect occasion to bring him back to Gould for a visit. The opportunity came in making preparations for the commencement exercises for the Class of 1954.

"Among the members of that class was an especially gifted artist, Beverly A. Onofrio of Bethel. She undertook, single-handedly, to paint a stage-size backdrop of the Hanscom Hall portico to adorn the Bingham Gymnasium, site of the graduation exercises that year. It was a masterpiece and the subject of much attention. This attraction seemed to have the elements to attract Mr. Bingham to the only building on campus to bear his name. An invitation was extended and accepted.

"At the appointed time, in late afternoon on a June day in 1954 when the campus was devoid of students and faculty, the chauffeured black car drove up to the front entrance of Bingham Gymnasium. Mr. Bingham, accompanied by his nurse, stepped inside the building and stood silently admiring the scenery of the lighted stage. After several minutes of observation, he punctuated his visit by saying 'Wonderful,' extended his right hand adding 'Goodbye and thank you,' and departed.

"And so, William Bingham II had visited Gould during my tenure and fulfilled my dream. It was an unheralded event, short in time, simple in conversation, but it made a lasting impression. It was also timely as he died the following winter on February 17, 1955."

"I have many warm memories of Gould Academy, but the *warmest* of all has to do with my relationship with 'Chef' and 'Ma' Glines, who provided us dormitory students with not only marvelous food but with a great deal of attention and surrogate parenting.

It all began in the fall of my Freshman year (1956) when I started washing dishes in the kitchen. We got first crack at the Glines' cooking each meal that we worked, and often I would tag along behind 'Chef' to see what he was preparing at the moment. I suspect he often found me underfoot when he would have rather seen me out of the way. On this particular occasion I was badgering him about what kind of sauce he was making when he turned abruptly and said, 'Here! Why don't you

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Readers of this issue of the Courier will note that it is focused on the history of Gould Academy, which celebrates 150 years of existence this year. On behalf of the Society, I wish to congratulate this well-known Bethel institution on reaching a significant milestone. I hope this issue is of particular interest to our many readers and members with Gould associations.

Alden T. Kennett

try some and tell me how you like it?' He turned again toward his work, ostensibly to spoon a sample for me to taste. He faced me again with a twinkle in his eye and a tablespoon of the sauce in his hand. Very naively I gulped it down, finding out later that it was 100% tobasco sauce. 'Ma' saw what happened and came after me with a cold glass of milk clucking at 'Chef' to get back to his cooking.

"I learned much that day. One thing was to stay out of 'Chef's' way and the other to learn to laugh at myself. My wife tells me I still need an occasional reminder."

John H. Todd '60

"My fondest memory of Gould was participating in various theatrical endeavors such as "Brigadoon", "Camelot", "Taming of the Shrew", "Carnival", "Golden Fleece", and "A Christmas Carol." My worst memory was the fear of Robert Scott as a U.S. history teacher. We both got through the course with barely a scar."

Merton T. Brown, Jr. '67

PRINCIPALS AND HEADMASTERS OF GOULD ACADEMY 1836-1986

Isaac Randall, 1836-37; William R. Chapman, 1838; Joseph Hill, 1838; Maurice R. Blake, 1839; Calvin Chapman, 1839; Moses Soule, 1840-43; Moses B. Bartlett-Abernathy Grover, 1843; Talleyrand Grover, 1844; David R. Hastings, 1844; Amanda A. Barker, 1845; Charles Hurd, 1845; Joseph C. Pickar, 1846-47; Nathaniel T. True, 1848-61; Welling R. Cross, 1861-62; E.P. Morse, 1862; M.C. Fernald, 1863-64; B.P. Snow, 1864-65; W.P. Young, 1865-66; George T. Plummer, 1866-67; George M. Bodge, 1867-71; Charles H. Hersey, 1872-73; S.A. Thurlow, 1873-74; D.O.S. Lowell, 1874-75; Edwin H. Hall, 1875-76; David M. McPherson, 1876-77; D.T. Timberlake, 1877-80; H.W. Johnson, 1881-85; Albert F. Sweetsir, 1885-86; W.R. Howard, 1886-88; A.C. Dresser, 1888-89; Arthur D. Hall 1889-92; J.D. Merriam, 1892-94; Edgar M. Simpson, 1894-95; Fred Ossian Small, 1896-97; Frank E. Hanscom, 1897-1936; Philip S. Sayles, 1936-40; Elwood F. Ireland, 1940-59; Edmond J. Vachon, 1959-67; Edward H. Scheibler, 1967-68; Samuel Bigelow (acting), 1968; Richard J. Dolven, 1968-77; Donald Fudge, 1977-83; William P. Clough III, 1983-.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Dr. Rex T. and Martha D. Martin live in Harrison, where he is an osteopathic physician.

Nina Mollicone is a nurse at Rumford Community Hospital and lives in East Bethel.

SOCIETY SALES DEPARTMENT

The Society maintains a selection of modestly priced gifts and historical publications. These may be ordered at the prices listed below. Maine residents should include 5% sales tax. Orders under \$10 should include \$1 for postage and handling; those over \$10 but under \$20 should include \$2 and all those over \$20 should include \$3 for postage and handling.

Moses Mason House Tile	\$3.50
Stationery (package of ten sheets and ten envelopes)	
\$2 each	
Moses Mason House	
Summer House	
Bethel Railroad Station	
Booklets	
"Bethel's Broad Street"	75¢
"The Family Farm"	75¢
"Made in Bethel"	75¢
"Dr. Moses Mason and His House"	\$1
"Molly Ockett"	\$2
Maps and Atlases	
1880 Map of Bethel Hill	\$2
1880 Map of Entire Town (Bethel)	\$2
1878 Bird's Eye View of Bethel Hill	\$1
1858 Atlas of Oxford County	\$6.50
Wood Tote (canvas) (Moses Mason Museum logo)	\$12.50
Tote Bag (Moses Mason Museum logo)	\$7.50
Placemats, 4 Season (set of four)	\$7.50
Special Editions	
Bethel Citizen (1974)	\$1
Indian Raid '81	\$1
Books	
D. B. Wight, WILD RIVER WILDERNESS	\$4
Francis Parkman, THE GOULD ACADEMY STORY	\$7.50
Ruth Crosby, I WAS A SUMMER BOARDER	\$3.50
Ruth Crosby, FROM AN OLD LEATHER TRUNK	\$3.50
BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY COOKBOOK	\$5
Thomas Hubka, BIG HOUSE, LITTLE HOUSE, BACK HOUSE	
BARN: THE CONNECTED FARM BUILDINGS OF NEW ENGLAND	
Paper	\$19.95
Cloth	\$29.95
Jean Lipman, RUFUS PORTER REDISCOVERED	\$12.95
A TRUTHFUL LIKENESS: CHESTER HARDING AND HIS PORTRAITS	\$25
Paula Wight, NEWRY PROFILES	\$5
Eva Bean, EAST BETHEL ROAD	\$50
William B. Lapham, HISTORY OF BETHEL, 1768-1890	\$45
Bethel Historical Society Calendar, 1986 (half-price)	\$2
T-Shirts	
Moses Mason Museum (Adult) (S,M,L,XL)	\$6
Moses Mason Museum (Child's) (4-6-8-10-12-14)	\$5
Sudbury Canada 1768-1796 (Adult) (S,M,L,XL)	\$6
Sudbury Canada 1768-1796 (Child's) (4-6-8-10-12-14)	\$5
Post Cards: Dr. Mason, Agnes Mason,	
Moses Mason House	10¢ ea.

Members of the Bethel Historical Society are entitled to a 10% discount for purchases totaling \$10 or more. Please send orders to the Society at P.O. Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217. They will be sent by return mail.

IN MEMORIAM

Died, Everett Mayo of Wilmington, Delaware, sustaining member since 1983.

Died in Honolulu, Hawaii, May 19, 1986, James Dyce Alger, life member, Investment Committee member, and generous donor.

Died in Norway, Maine, May 25, 1986, W. Albert Skillings, honorary member and faithful volunteer, well-known for his skills in the Society's blacksmith shop during the annual Sudbury Canada Days.

REMEMBERING ALBERT SKILLINGS

My memories of Albert Skillings are relatively recent ones--beginning with an oral history project done in 1974 for the Special Edition of the *Citizen*. My first impression of the Skillings farm was of the self-sufficiency and hard work required in earlier times--from woodlot to field, barn to blacksmith shop, barnyard to farmhouse. A visit to the farm was a trip back in time. In fact, when my car came nose-to-nose with an ox-drawn cart driven by Albert and his son Bill, I was sure I had entered some sort of time-warp.

Albert's stories were personal and lively, describing "hot-rodding" from the farm to the top of Mill Hill by ox-cart in fifty-five minutes, haying on the islands of the Androscoggin, hauling supplies in the winter to logging camps in Richardson Lake, and participating in parades and competition at county fairs with his oxen. These stories were all grounded in a thorough knowledge of his subject whether the day's topic was oxen, blacksmithing, logging or farm life.

Albert understood that his experiences and his ability to describe them in precise detail were special. Fortunately the taping project begun in 1974 stretched into more than a decade of involvement with the Bethel Historical Society. Albert was willing to make many hours of tapes, to assist in research projects, to entertain school groups at the farm and at the Dr. Moses Mason House, and, with his son Bill, and grandson Tim Korhonen, to become a part of Bethel's living history in the blacksmith shop during Sudbury Canada Days. Albert's death this spring brought to an end a full and long life. He had the satisfaction of knowing that succeeding generations will be able to share some of that life through his reminiscences. The Society will certainly miss Albert Skillings.

Catherine S-C. Newell

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FOR 1986

(as of May 1, 1986)

HONORARY

Elizabeth M. Carter, West Bethel; Floribel Haines, Bethel; W. Albert Skillings, Bethel.

LIFE

James and Consuelo Alger, Bethel; Kimball Ames, Bethel; Laurel Atkinson, Norway; Charles M. Austin, Naples; Arthur E. Barker, Stafford Springs, CT; Jean Barker, Delray Beach, FL; Alvin Barth, Bethel; Clarence A. Bartlett, Nashua, NH; Gertie F. Bartlett, Bethel; William P. Bartlett, Dover-Foxcroft; Florine E. Bowden, Smithfield, RI; Dorothy F. Brinck, South Paris; Carolyn Brooks, Bethel; Julia Brown, Bethel; Richard N. Bryant, Bethel; Ralph & Beatrice Burris, Bethel; Richard & Catherine Bush, Belmont, MA; Donald & Mary Calderwood, Mesa, AZ; Ann B. Carlson, Friendship; Philip & Mary Chadbourne, Bethel; Theodore & Kay Chadbourne, Bethel; Carlton & Mary Champe, Rumford Center; Alonzo F. Chapman, San Antonio, FL; Donald & Dorothy Christie, Gray; Norman & Sylvia Clanton, Bethel; Isabel T. Coburn, New Harbor; Howard & Virginia Cole, Bethel; Mary Lou Cole, Norwood, MA; Wilfred & Eleanor Conary,

Bethel; Rupert D. & Eva Conroy, Auburn; John W. & Inez Conzelman, Palm Springs, CA; William & Margaret Cousins, Bethel; Patricia C. Dooen, Bethel; Dana C. & Barbara Douglass, Bethel; Frances Lane Dunn, North Edgecomb; Hugh S. & Mariann Durgin, Bethel; Kathryn M. Eames, Cape Elizabeth; Donald & Edith Eddy, Bethel; Clifford Ellis, Oxford; Lucretia B. Evans, Bronx, NY; Allen Fraser, Bethel; Doris Fraser, Bethel; Gordon M. & Mary Gillies, Bethel; Cynthia T. Gotjen, Bethel; Lillian H. Grant, Gorham; John T. Grover, Bethel; Agnes H. Haines, Bethel; Ralph & Marion Hall, Bethel; Mary Lee Harris, New London, NH; Annie Hastings, Bethel; E. Dick Hastings, Bethel; Edward H. Hastings, Bethel; Robert D. & Florence B. Hastings, Bethel; Bruce Hazelton, Cumberland Center; John & Fumiko Head, Bethel; Olive Head, West Bethel; Charles H. Heino, Boothbay Harbor; Reona B. Heino, Boothbay; Clifford & Helen Hillier, Bethel; Dorothea Hitzrot, Bethel; Ernest Holt, Bethel; Richard & Jane Hosterman, West Bethel; John W. Howe, Vancouver, BC; Rodney & Geraldine Howe, Bethel; Dr. Stanley R. Howe, Bethel; W. Sidney Howe, Belfast; Margaret H. Humphrey, Portland; James E. Hutchins, Bethel; Norma R. Jodrey, Bethel; Charlotte K. Johnson, Westford, MA; Paul A. & Helen V. Judkins, Dixfield; Royden & Alice Keddy, Gorham; Robert & Virginia Keniston, Bethel; Alden & Mabel Kennett, Bethel; Roberta Kirmse, Litchfield, CT; Daisy LeClair, Bethel; E. Louise Lincoln, Bethel; Martha Long, Kingston, NH; Robert Marshall, Bethel; Fr. Don L. McAllister, Norway; Frederick & Mina McMillin, Bethel; Pearline McMillin, Bethel; Marguerite McNally, Hampden; E. Lee & Mary Mills, Locke Mills; Eva Mills, Bryant Pond; Timothy Mills, Bryant Pond; Marilyn R. Mollicone, Augusta; James L. & Josephine Monahan, Bethel; Marcia E. Moss, Concord, NH; George H. Noll, Bethel; Leslie A. Noyes, Bethel; Margaret H. Oakes, Augusta; Elizabeth B. Overton, Brooklin; Harry E. & Eleanor Parsons, Bethel; Mary H. Parsons, South Paris; Ernest & Lillian Perkins, Bethel; Crawford F. & Therese Perry, Bethel; Persis Post, Newry; Jeanette S. Potsaid, Hanover, MA; Betty Prescott, Bangor; Anthony L. & Eleanor Pugliese, Bethel; Edward M. & Marguerite Quinn, Bethel; Richard D. Razor, Bethel; Edith K. Robertson, Sterling, VA; Roger E. Robertson, Northridge, CA; Emily Saunders, Bethel; Dorothy G. Schmidt, Augusta; Stephen T. Seames, Locke Mills; Charles & Edith Seashore, Bethel; Basil Sequin, Gorham, NH; Roxanne T. Sly, Brooklin; Dr. Charles & Mary Ann Smith, Harrison; Robert & Elisabeth Stedman, Ottawa, Ont.; Joanne P. Stewart, Kalamazoo, MI; George P. & Harriet Stowell, West Bethel; Amy Penner Stroud, Pennsauken, NJ; William M. Throop, New York, NY; Hope Tibbetts, Bethel; Dr. John W. & Margaret Trinward, Bethel; Corinne Twitchell, Portland; Edmund J. & Sudie Vachon, Bethel; Richard & Ruth Verville, Bethel; Martha Von Zintl, Bethel; Elizabeth Whiteman, Elkins Park, PA; Walter & Nancy Whittier, Falmouth; Daniel & Rosalie Wight, Rumford; Ruth Wight, Bethel; Priscilla C. Wiley, Kato-nah, NY; Eleanor Wilson, Bryant Pond; James W. & Joy Yarnell, Newry.

PATRONS

John Ballentine, Somersworth, NH; John P. & Mary Beth Bayerlein, Bethel; Donald & Katherine Bennett, Bethel; Kenneth & Gwyneth Bohr, Bethel; Dana F. & Mary Bresnahan, Pasadena, CA; Guy & Nancy Butler, Millinocket; Mary Clyne & Harold Reinhardt, Mohawk, NY; Evelyn R. Collins, New Cumberland, PA; Dorothy Dorr, Newtonville, MA; Jayne Fife, Tucson, AZ; Robert W. Goodwin, Norway; Paul Groves, Bethel; John & Sandra Mahon, Bethel; John A. & Merrilee McMillin, Augusta; Helen Morton, Bethel; Jane Champe Payne, Hanover; Robert T. Tewksbury, Kerrville, TX; Margaret J. Tibbetts, Bethel; Thelma Van Den Kerckhoven, Bucksport; Donald J. & Constance Vautour, Weston, MA; James A. Walker, Crestview, FL; Stephen W. & Margaret Wight, Bethel; Douglas & Robin Zinchuck, Bethel.

CONTRIBUTING

Barbara Rich Adams, Lancaster, NH; Roger Adams, W. Simsbury, CT; J. Maynard & Carolyn Austin, Bennington, VT; Kathryn Bailey, Lewiston; Dr. Thomas M. & Renate Barker, Albany, NY; Albert B. & Elizabeth Bartlett, Fresno, CA; Otis J. Bartlett, Berlin, NH; Frances K. Bernier, Bethel; Charles & Patricia Blake, Bethel; Jeanne T. Bletzer, Woodstock, VT; Lillian K. Bomhoff, Mendham, NJ; Carl R. & Lettie Brooks, West Paris; Karen Brown, Bethel; Sumner & Lois Burgess, Bethel; Suzanne Carlson & D.L. Emblen, Santa Rosa, CA; Marian A. Caye, Bethel; Fillmore & Shirley Clough, Bethel; Louise B. Clough, New London, NH; William P. III & Ki Clough, Bethel; Carolyn Colby, Bethel; Helen Connolly, Port Ludlow, WA; Joanne Crounse, Danvers, MA; G. Burton Davy, East Braintree, MA; John H. & Marie Dudley, Rumford Center; Anita Ferrand, Bethel; Gordon Fish, St. Johnsbury, VT; Edward T. Fleming, Arcadia, CA; William L. & Marguerite Graham, Bethel; Paul C. Grey, South Winsor, CT; Robert L. Greenleaf, N. Scituate, RI; June Greig, Bethel; Dr. Nathan D. Hamilton, Farmington; Richard E. Holland, York; Barbara Honkala, Kilmarnock, VA; William H. & Joan Howe, Ashton, Ontario; William W. & Gabrielle, Rockville, MD; Dr. James & Patricia Hudson, Bethel; Helen D. Hughes, Ridgway, PA; T. Howard Jackson, No. Easton, MA; William H. & Theresa Judson, Lincoln; Rebecca Kendall, West Bethel; Herbert & Ruth Kittredge, Bethel; Harold M. & Edith Lawrence, Portland; Dr. Homer E. & Barbara Lawrence, Concord, NH; Elliot N. Levy, Guilford; Barbara Lucas, Bethel; H. Merrill & Jane Luthe, Portland; H. Paul McGuire & Robin Lee, Bethel; Barbara Miller, Bethel; David & Nancy Murphy, Bryant Pond; Cathy Newell, Bethel; Herbert E. & Evelyn Nickerson, Bethel; Guy & Marilyn Parker, Milford, CT; Dr. Francis Parkman, Chester Hill, MA; Frances W. Peabody, Portland; Nancy Pike, Union; Jeffrey R. Plummer, Auburn; Judith L. Ray, Austin, TX; Charles F. & Betsy Raymond, Bethel; Mary T. Rice, Colorado Springs, CO; Vance & Janet Richardson, Portland; Phyllis Roberts, Rumford Center; Jan Roberts, Austin, TX; David H. & Adelaide Robinson, Yarmouthport, MA; Robert B. & Ellen Russell, Westwood, MA; William J. & Loretta Russell, Goffstown, NH; Noyes & Dorothy Shirley, Bethel; H. Hills & Jane Skillings, Amherst, MA; Clifford & Joan Smith, Hyde Park, NY; Jim & Ada Smith, Long Branch, NJ; Dexter M. & Janet Stowell, Bethel; Glenn E. Swan, Mexico; Louis Thibodeau, Rumford; Robert E. Thurston, Sr., Old Town; Don F. & Peggy Tobin, Bandera, TX; John & Janet Todd, Bethel; Dorothy Vissers, Ashburton, MA; M/M Thomas P. Wall, Jr., Nashville, TN; Muriel Whitney, Bethel; Elwin L. & Dorothy C. Wilson, Orono; Gloria J. Wilson, Bethel; John W. York, Lilburn, GA.

SUSTAINING

James Anderson, Newry; Marjorie Anderson, Owls Head; Olive G. Anderson, Bethel; Ernest & Alberta Angevine, Bethel; Richard & Sue Angevine, Bethel; Mary Bakeman, Roseville, MN; Bradley & Judith Barker, Bethel; Vivian Barlow, Andover; Dorothy Bartlett, Bethel; Lillian C. Bartlett, Bethel; Randall H. Bennett, Rumford; Barbara Bethel, Brooklyn, NY; Mary Billings, Bryant Pond; Elizabeth F. Blake, Bethel; Rev. Raymond & Sally Bradley, Riverside, RI; Edward Britton, Louisville, KY; Donald E. & Eleanor Brooks, Bethel; Jeri Brooks, Bethel; Donald & Arlene Brown, Bethel; Bernice Brown, Rumford Center; Doris Brown, Bethel; Geneva Brown, Norway; Kurt G. Brown, Bethel; Leland & Barbara Brown, Bethel; Marie C. Brown, Bethel; Maxine Brown, Bethel; Merton & Martha Brown, Bethel; Norris & Barbara Brown, Bethel; Raymond & Dorothy Brown, Somersworth, NH; Erma Buckley, Gorham, NH; Alan & Judy Burgess, Trevett; Natalie Butler, Farmington; Norm Buttrick, Freeport; Carolyn Campbell, Bethel; Gilbert & Elaine Carlson, Hingham, MA; Russell L. & Elsie Carpenter, Winchester, MA; Richard &

Lyndell Carter, Bethel; Stephen C. & Lynda Chandler, Bethel; Franklin S. & Rosalind Chapman, Bethel; Hugh & Lindsley Chapman, Bethel; Charles N. & Margaret Clark, De Bary, FL; E. Terry & Sandra Clark, Washington, CT; Adaline Clough, Bethel; Ellen Coffin, Norway; Ben Conant, South Paris; Roger Conant, Bethel; Anita Cook, South Paris; Edith Coolidge, Bethel; Joan S. Coolidge, Bethel; Victor & Judith Coolidge, Bethel; Wilfred & Neva Coolidge, Bethel; Albert Cotton, Bethel; Ruth Cox, Bryant Pond; Barbara Craig, Bethel; Barbara C. Crocker, Riverside, RI; Arthur & Ruth Cummings, Bethel; Marjorie Cummings, Bethel; Amy Davis, Bethel; Elsie Davis, Bethel; John & Yoshiko Davis, South Paris; Theodore & Linda Davis, Bethel; Francis J. Devine, South Portland; L. Adeline Dexter, Bethel; Ruth E. Dobson, Contoocook, NH; Gayland & Mary Dooen, Bethel; Dr. Horton W. Emerson, Jr., Gorham; R. June Emerson, No. Fryeburg; Ruby Emery, Bryant Pond; Jessie Fairbanks, Bethel; Edna Fallon, Bethel; Sue Farrar, Bethel; Lt. Col. Percy C. Fauskin, Corona, CA; Olive G. Ferguson, Exeter, NH; Abigail B. Fiske, Gorham, NH; Lincoln B. Sr. & Suzanne Fiske, Bethel; Charles B. Fobes, Portland; Wendell & Louise Franklyn, Medford, MA; Richard Fraser, East Poland; Shirley A. Garland, Center Conway, NH; Abigail T. Gerhard, Milford, CT; William H. Gibson, West Paris; Arthur & Ruth Gilbert, West Bethel; Paul R. Given, New Gloucester; Celia Gorman, Bethel; Caroline Gould, Bethel; Dorothy Graves, Bethel; Alice T. Gray, Portland; Stephen W. Gray, Ithaca, NY; Christine Greenleaf, Bethel; Marjorie Greer, Klamath River, CA; Dawn Gross, Bethel; Beatrice Grover, Bethel; Jean Grover, Locke Mills; Sandra M. Gunther, Bethel; Charles & Mary Lee Haines Bethel; Fred Haines, Jr., Bethel; George & Charlene Haines, Bethel; John & Nancy Haines, Bryant Pond; Peter & Beverly Haines, Bethel; Harold E. Hall, Hebron; Richard & Frances Harding, Bryant Pond; Dr. John & Cathy Hart, Bangor; Judith E. Haskell, Bethel; Emeline Heath, Bethel; Bernice Hodgdon, Norway; Rose A. Holodinsky, Norway; Virginia Hood, Largo, FL; Christopher J. Hovey, Farmingdale; Allan R. & Diane Howe, Bethel; Jeffrey G. Howe, Boise, ID; John G. & Sandra Howe, Severn, MD; John P. Howe, Rockport, MA; Marita Hunton, Norway; Harlan & Gertrude Hutchins, Bethel; Lee & Virginia Hutchins, Bethel; Bartlett Hutchinson, South Paris; Iva Hutchinson, Bethel; Ernestine Jackson, Danvers, MA; Mildred Jackson, Bethel; Susan A. Jackson, Dover, MA; Gayland K. & Myrna Jensen, Mantaw, Utah; Arlan R. & Eleanor Jodrey, Bethel; Thomas B. Johnson, Bridgton; Gordon W. & Rena Johnston, West Sumner; Dorothy H. Jones, Portland; Frances E. Jordan, Poland; Paul & Jean Kailey, Bethel; Arthur J. Kavanagh, Southbridge, MA; Barry J. Kelly, Berlin, NH; Eugene L. & Virginia Kelly, Bethel; Earlon & Mary Keniston, Bethel; Edward A. & Amy Kennett, Locke Mills; Susan Kettinger, Salem, NH; Janis P. Kibbe, Bethel; Alice Kimball, Bethel; Gerald Kimball, Gray; Gordon Kimball, Gray; Thelma B. Knight, Montpelier, VT; Mary T. Kushner, W. Orange, NJ; Harry & Barbara Kuzyk, Bethel; Andrew L. Labrecque, Alcove, PQ; Flora M. Locke, Lancaster, CA; James H. Locke, Naturita, CO; James Nelson Locke, Willimantic, CT; Doris Lord, Haines City, FL; Ruth Lord, Bethel; Stanley & Elizabeth Lord, Bethel; Carolyn MacDormand, North Hampton, NH; Ethel MacKenzie, Bryant Pond; Marlene Marshall, Bethel; Stuart Martin, Rumford Point; Charles M. Mason, Pittsburgh, PA; Everett R. Mayo, Wilmington, DE; Mildred McLain, Bethel; Elizabeth Mercer, Mashpee, MA; Kevin Mercer, Hyannis, MA; Nancy Mercer, Bethel; Barbara Merrill, Bethel; Caroline O. Merrill, Bethel; Jeordie Merrill, Bethel; Ilene F. Miller, McLean, VA; Esther P. Mitchell, Boothbay; Joanne C. Mooney, Ottawa, Ont.; Herbert Morton III, Andover, MA; Ruby Mott, Meriden, CT; Alice Mundt, Worcester, MA; Ernest Mundt, Bethel; Vicki Myers, Bethel; Jean Ness, Orono; Charles W. Newell, Bethel; Hazel Newell, Locke Mills; George A. & Danna Nickerson, Bethel; John & Lucy Nordahl,

Bethel; John & Yvonne Nowlin, Bethel; Dr. Marvin & Tineke Ouwinga, Bethel; Jean K. Owen, Bethel; Earlon & Mary Paine, Bethel; Barbara Parsons, South Paris; Gertrude S. Percival, Andover; Rachel Bean Perkins, Springvale; Roberta G. Pevear, Hampton Falls, NH; Harold R. & Eunice Powell, Hanover; Read H. Putnam, Evanston, WY; Kenneth H. & Sarah Ramage, Bethel; Jonathan M. Ray, North Bridgton; Jeanne E. Rice, Ann Arbor, MI; William T. Rice, Bethel; Marian Rich, Bethel; Mrs. Owen J. Richards, North Arlington, NJ; John V. Richardson, Jr., Athol, MA; Shirley R. Ripley, Methuen, MA; Beatrice R. Ritter, Torrington, CT; Jacklyn C. Roberts, Bethel; Lillian A. Rose, Portsmouth, NH; Edith D. Russell, Brownfield; Margaret Sawyer, Waterford; Olga Seidensticker, Oak Creek, WI; Charlotte A. Shinn, Hopkins, MN; Albert & Helen Smith, Cedar Falls, IA; James & Evelyn Smith, South Paris; Leslie & Elizabeth Smith, Bethel; Veronica Smith, Bethel; Ronald E. & Gloria Snyder, West Bethel; Warren D. Stearns, Hanover; Randal & Sarah Stevens, Bethel; Sigmund J. & Eunice Sysko, Bethel; Marion Taylor, South Portland; Charles I. & Dixie Lea Thayer, Bangor; Mildred C. Thomas, Bethel; David D. & Irma Thompson, Bethel; Susan M. Thompson, Don Mills, Ontario; Murray W. & Constance Thurston, Bethel; Ray Thurston, South Rumford; Barry Tracy, West Redding, PA; Mary Valentine, Bethel; Jane Van Den Kerckhoven, West Buxton; Joseph & Sue Vedella, Bethel; Amy C. Verrill, Concord, MA; Frank & Janet Vogt, Bethel; Viola Waite, Mexico; Arlene Walker, Bethel; Florence M. Walker, Socorro, NM; Ruth Watson, East Sullivan; William & Virginia Weston, Rumford Center; Barbara Wheeler, Bethel; Mary Wheeler, Bethel; Richard & Ellen Whitney, Bethel; F. Owen & Sue Wight, Newry; Gretchen Wight, Newry; Willard & Sylvia Wight, Newry; Doris Wilkins, Clearwater, FL; Barbara Willard, Ruidoso, NM; Ronald D. Willard, Falls Church, VA; Earl S. Williamson, Jr., New York, NY; Barbara Willey, Portsmouth, NH; Walter W. Wright, Lebanon, NH; Edna B. York, Bethel.

STUDENT

Debby Barker, Bethel; Dawn Brown, E. Longmeadow, MA; Adam Chamberlin, Bethel; Joshua Chamberlin, Bethel; Zachary Chamberlin, Bethel; Christopher G. Chapman, Bethel; Timothy M. Chapman, Bethel; Andrea Howe, Bethel; Dustin A. Howe, Bethel; Jennifer Howe, Severn, MD; Tanya Howe, Severn, MD; Alec Newell, Bethel; Martha Newell, Bethel; Louise Snyder, West Bethel.

MEMBER PROFILE

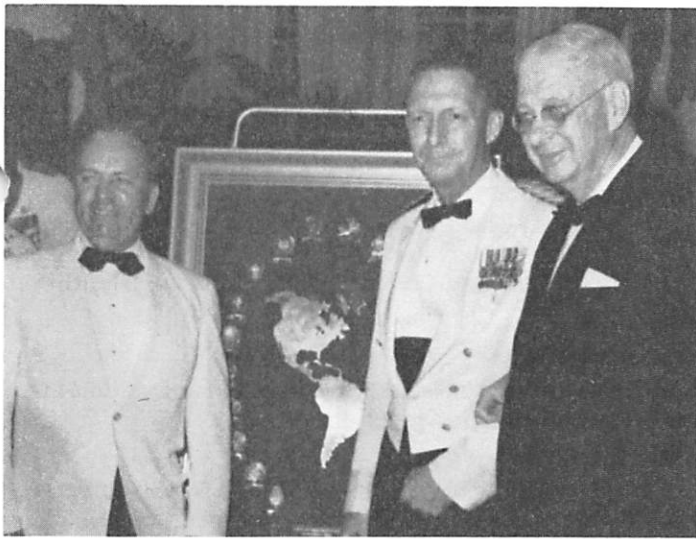
James Dyce Alger (1912-1986)

James Dyce Alger was born in Brockton, Massachusetts, March 25, 1912, the son of James Henry and Constance Dyce Alger. His early education was obtained in the schools of Bridgewater, Massachusetts; he was graduated Gould Academy in 1930 and the Swavely School, Manassas, Virginia in 1931 before entering the United States Military Academy. He was graduated from West Point in 1935 and commissioned a second lieutenant in the Cavalry.

Prior to World War II, he served with the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Bliss, Texas, with the 26th Cavalry Regiment in the Philippines, and with the 1st Armored Division at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

In 1942, he commanded the 2nd Battalion of the 1st Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division, which in that year moved overseas to Northern Ireland, England and into combat in World War II in North Africa.

On return to the United States in May 1945, he attended Command and General Staff College. This course was followed by various field and staff assignments at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Chatham, England, Fort Monroe, Virginia and in the office of the Secretary of Defense, Washington.



L to R: Edmond J. Vachon, Headmaster Emeritus, Gould Academy; Lt. Gen. James D. Alger; Sidney W. Davidson, President Emeritus, Gould Academy Board of Trustees at the Hall of the Americas, Pan American Union, Washington, D.C., July 30, 1970, reception marking the retirement of Gen. Alger from the U.S. Army after thirty-five years of service.

Photo courtesy of Edmond J. Vachon

During the Korean War, he was Chief of Staff of the Korean Military Advisory Group and is credited with the Third Korean Winter and the Korean Summer and Fall Campaigns 1953. After Korea, there followed assignments in the United States at Fort Hood, Texas and in the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel in Washington before returning to Germany in 1957 for a tour with the 3rd Armored Division and as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 to Headquarters, Allied Land Forces Central Europe.

Again in the United States in July 1961, he assumed command of the II U.S. Army Corps at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. From there he moved in 1963 to the Department of the Army in Washington as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations.

He returned overseas once again in July 1964 as Commanding General of the United States Army Forces Southern Command in the Canal Zone before assuming in August 1967 his last assignment as Chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board from which he retired in 1970. He served on the Gould Academy Board of Trustees for nearly thirty years.

He received many decorations and awards including the Distinguished Service Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster), Legion of Merit (Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster), Joint Service and Army Commendation Medals, Purple Heart, European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, National Defense, Korean and United Nations Service Medals. Foreign decorations and awards were bestowed upon by the Republics of Chile, Venezuela, Peru, Panama, Brazil, Korea and the Philippines.

In the early 1970s General Alger and his wife Consuelo acquired the former Major Gideon Hastings house on Broad Street. From this vantage point they maintained a keen interest in the Society. He was Honorary Chairman of Indian Raid '81, which commemorated the bicentennial of New England's last Indian Raid. He served on the Society's Investment Committee, provided space in his barn for the Sudbury Canada Days antique show, donated prizes for the croquet and horseshoe pitching tournaments and hosted these events during Sudbury Canada Days, donated furnishings to the Dr. Moses Mason House and

was a regular and active attendant at Society meetings when he and Consuelo were in residence in Bethel. His intense and active interest will be greatly missed by his many Society friends.

FAYE TAYLOR MEMORIAL ART SHOW 1986 WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Winners of the Faye Taylor Memorial Art Show sponsored each year by the Society in May are Junior Division (Grades 1-4) were first prize, Amos Hausman, Grade 1, Ethel Bisbee School; second prize, Heath Keniston, Grade 4, Crescent Park School; third prize, Adam Luxton, Grade 2, Ethel Bisbee School; Intermediate Division (Grades 5-8) first prize Heather Keniston, Grade 5, Crescent Park School; second prize, Damon Lichtblau, Grade 5, Crescent Park School; third prize, Meredith Otten, Grade 5, Crescent Park School. In the Senior Division (Grades 9-12) there were only a few entries that met the criteria for entering the contest so the judges awarded only one prize won by Charlotte Aron, a senior at Telstar Regional high School. Judges this year were Jan Baker, Donald G. Bennett and Gemma Dreher. Much appreciation is extended to the teachers of SAD #44 for all their efforts in making this year's show such a success and to the Bethel Savings Bank for its financial support for the cash prizes.

SOCIETY OBSERVES DR. MASON'S BIRTHDAY AND ITS OWN 20 YEARS JUNE 1

The 197th birthday of Dr. Moses Mason was observed with an open house hosted by life members Ernest and Betty Perkins portraying the Masons, assisted by members of the Society's Museum and Special Projects committees. During the afternoon which was made even more memorable due to a particularly severe thunder storm, the Society observed its twentieth anniversary with a slide presentation by Society Director Stanley R. Howe, who received some of the highlights of the past two decades. The audience was welcomed by President Alden T. Kennett and represented a large number of historical societies and museums throughout Maine. Craft demonstrators in the museum during the afternoon included Jan Todd, quilting; E. Dick Hastings, needlepoint and Helen Morton, scratchboard. An exhibit, "The Bethel Historical Society: The First 20 Years" also was opened to the public for the first time during the weekend.



Honoring Gould's 150th Anniversary at August 7th Society monthly meeting. L to R: Clifford Hillier (former business teacher); William P. Clough III, Gould Headmaster; Marvin Ouwinga, classics teacher; Lynda Chandler, admissions office; Edmond J. Vachon, Headmaster Emeritus; William Graham, English teacher; Emily Stuart, admissions office; Robert Stewart, Director of Admissions; Paul Kailey (former history teacher).

Photo courtesy of Donald S. Brown

LAPHAM'S HISTORY OF BETHEL AVAILABLE AGAIN

Through the cooperation of the Society with New England History Press, William B. Lapham's HISTORY OF BETHEL, MAINE 1768-1890 is again available. Reprinted in 1981 through the collaboration of NEHP and the Society, the book's supply was soon exhausted. Containing a fifteen page introductory essay by Society Director Howe and new subject and name indexes, the second impression of the 1981 reprint also contains a new page of revisions and additions in the name index. For those wishing to order a copy the price is \$45 plus \$2.50 for insurance and postage. Residents of Maine please include 5% sales tax in your order. Members of the Society are entitled to a 10% discount. Please remit to the Society at P.O. Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217 or call (207) 824-2908 for further information.

1986 ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

Life member Howard W. Cole has once more agreed to head the Society's annual endowment campaign. He will be assisted in this endeavor by Barbara D. Brown, John B. Head, Alden T. Kennett and E. Louise Lincoln. The goal this year is \$8500 to be reached by December 31, 1986. Contributions are welcomed in any amount and may be given in honor of or in memory of a particular person or persons. Please send them to the Society at P.O. Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217.

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEES 1985-86

BUILDING

E. M. Quinn, Chairman; Richard Verville; George Noll; Julia Brown; Rodney Howe; James Yarnell; Fred McMillin; Donald Vautour.

GARDEN AND GROUNDS

Sudie Vachon, Chairman; Gertrude Hutchinson; Arthur Cummings; Margaret Tibbetts; Jane Vogt; Harry Kuzyk; Joy Yarnell; Emily Saunders; Geraldine Howe; Katherine Bennett; Theresa Perry; Sandra Gunther; Dawn Gross; Josephine Monahan; Mary Beth Bayerlein

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Alvin Barth, Chairman; Rosalind Chapman, Elizabeth Smith; Judy Haskell; Randall Bennett; Sue Wight; Jane Hosterman; Virginia Kelly; Catherine Newell; Paul McGuire; Marvin Ouwinga; Frank Vogt

PROGRAM

Helen Morton, Chairman; Geraldine Howe; Karen Brown; Ernest Perkins; Maxine Brown; Norman Clanton; Earlon Paine; John Bayerlein; Richard Hosterman

MUSEUM

Judy Haskell, Chairman; Frances Harding; Agnes Haines; Rosalind Chapman; Floribel Haines; Ruth Wight; Sylvia Clanton; Barbara H. Brown; Barbara Douglass; Mildred Thomas

INVESTMENT

Margaret Joy Tibbetts, Chairman; James D. Alger; Edmond J. Vachon; Royden Keddy; Louise Lincoln; John Head; Wilfred Conary; Howard Cole; Mary Keniston; Alden Kennett

CRAFT

Catherine Newell, Chairman; Hope Tibbetts; Marlene Marshall; Carolyn Campbell; Janet Todd; Lynda Chandler; Alden Kennett; Edward Kennett

MUSIC

Arlene Brown, Chairman; Mary Valentine; Edna York; Arlene Walker; Edward H. Hastings; Stephen Seames; Vicky Myers

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Persis Post, Chairman; Carolyn Brooks; Sarah Stevens; Edna York; Julia Brown; Sylvia Wight; Gloria Snyder; Mary Keniston; Olive Anderson; Christine Greenleaf; James Anderson; Norris Brown

GENEALOGICAL

Agnes Haines, Chairman; Alden Kennett; Floribel Haines; Nancy H. Mercer; Judy Barker; Gloria Snyder; Mabel Kennett; Mariann Durgin; Neva Coolidge; Mary Keniston; Jane Hosterman

MEMBERSHIP

Barbara D. Brown, Chairman; Jean Owen; Margaret Cousins; E. M. Quinn; Merton Brown; Jeri Brooks

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Mildred Jackson, Chairman; Hazel Newell; Phyllis Roberts; E. Dick Hastings; Barbara Kuzyk; Marie Brown; Ernest Perkins; Nancy Mercer

ENDOWMENT

Howard Cole, Chairman; Barbara D. Brown; John B. Head; Louise Lincoln; Alden Kennett

ART

Katherine Bennett, Chairman; Donald G. Bennett, Catherine Newell, Helen Morton, Sue Wight, Mary Isham

LONG RANGE PLANNING

James Monahan, Chairman; Mary Gillies, Catherine Newell; James Yarnell; Dexter Stowell; Judith Haskell; Rosalind Chapman; John Bayerlein; Marvin Ouwinga

BOOK REVIEW

Eva Bean, EAST BETHEL ROAD. Bethel, Maine: Bethel Historical Society, 1984. Second Edition, 768 pp. \$50.

When Eva Bean wrote *East Bethel Road* in the late 1950s, she noted that it was intended to be a continuation of William B. Lapham's *History of Bethel*, which appeared in 1892. The present edition consists of a reprint of the original edition with a supplement which further continues the record from 1959 into the 1980s.

Short background sketches of the "History of Maine" and the "History of Bethel" are followed by the first of the two main sections of the book, the listing of house sites. Each home to be found along the East Bethel Road, the entire eastern part of the town, has its own paragraph, or more, which is numbered to correspond with a master map. Some of the descriptions are bare-bones outlines of ownership, but most are "fleshed out" with anecdotes about the occupants and commentary on their lives and times.

The second of the two main parts of the book is the section on family histories. Ranging from Abbott to Zaworski, these include anyone who has ever lived in any of the houses on the East Bethel Road. So far as possible the author has traced each family from its first connection with Bethel through to the time of writing. Among the many families represented are eighteen pages of Beans, including the author, and the individual who possesses the name which is probably the most widely recognized with roots in East Bethel, L. L. Bean - a family far different than the fictional one of Egypt, Maine.

Additional sections cover early churches and a history of Gould Academy. There is a listing of "Dates and Events" that may have influenced the lives of the residents. "Odds and Ends" includes everything from early bills, accounts, and documents to pictures, poetry, and a description of "aviation in Bethel." Finally there is an important section on cemeteries with lot

plans of the newer and larger ones followed by listings of the people buried there. Graves of military veterans are noted separately. References used are noted and there is a complete index of names as well as a number of additions and corrections which were discovered too late to be inserted in the body of the text.

Miss Bean wrote with humor and understanding since she was personally acquainted with many of the families and events she documented. A large proportion of the material was supplied by the families themselves; the book consequently contains a considerable amount of information that otherwise might have been unavailable to future genealogists.

On pages 14 and 15 the author noted some of the "winds of change" that have affected the area since Victorian times. Many of "the old mountain fields" that I remember have finished changing "back into the wooded hillsides that greeted the pioneers of Sudbury Canada." In recent years, tracks of both bear and moose have been found on my father's farm, and coyotes no longer draw a crowd as did the one caught by a local trapper during my childhood.

In his preface to the supplement which has been added to the current edition, editor Stanley Howe continues the theme of change. One of the most noticeable changes in the landscape is the loss of most of the elm trees. Among my most vivid memories are winter sunsets seen through the branches of the tree noted in this preface as well as the songs of tree frogs singing on warm summer nights among the branches of the almost equally huge elm that stood at the other side of the house.

But while the woods have reclaimed the hills and wildlife has returned, the roadsides have changed in an opposite way. Many new homes have been built and much evidence of increasing human growth and development is to be seen everywhere.

The supplement also has two main sections. The first repeats the listing of house sites, noting changes and adding the new structures following the same sequence along the road that was used in the original edition. This is followed by the family histories, providing new information and recording changes that have occurred in the twenty-five years since the original edition. In most cases one or more generations have been added.

The additional burials and graves of veterans in the several cemeteries are noted. There are two pages of corrections of the

text of the original book. The index of names appearing in the supplement is fully as long as the previous index.

The current edition is made complete by the inclusion of the map of "Sudbury Canada Before the Indian Raid In 1781" which appeared on the endpapers of the first edition as well as a photograph of a painting by Susie Kimball showing the East Bethel Road about 1880. Unfortunately this photograph was reversed during the printing process (a fact that is duly noted by the presence of an errata sheet). The painting is also reproduced (this time flawlessly) on the dust jacket in full color. A photograph of author Eva Bean engaged in research in one of the cemeteries appears in the front of the volume along with a foreword by Margaret Joy Tibbets, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Bethel Historical Society.

I find it difficult to be objective about a book which has so much meaning for me personally since my home and family are included in it. Certainly it is invaluable for much genealogical and historical information that cannot be found elsewhere. The only real fault I can find with the book is the small number of illustrations. This aside, it is clear that Miss Bean, a native and a longtime student of local history, could not have been more eminently qualified to write this book. Equally well-suited to the task of editing the supplement is Stanley Howe, also a native and longtime director of the Bethel Historical Society, which has published the present volume. *East Bethel Road* should not be missed by anyone interested in the history of the area or any of the families residing on the East Bethel Road.

Marilyn R. Noyes Mollicone

A graduate of Gould Academy (1946) and the University of Maine (1950), Society life member Marilyn R. Noyes Mollicone is an East Bethel native now living in Augusta.

SOCIETY OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Alden T. Kennett, President; Marvin Ouwinga, Vice-President; Charles F. Raymond, Secretary and Clerk of the Trustees; Mary C. Keniston, Treasurer; Trustees: Persis Post, Ruth Wight, Donald Bennett, Margaret Joy Tibbets, Donald S. Brown.

Join the Bethel Historical Society dedicated to preserving and interpreting the local past.

Membership in the Society entitles you to:

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) free admission to the museum | (5) quarterly newsletter |
| (2) special discounts at museum store | (6) reduced course fees |
| (3) preferred rate for meeting room rental | (7) voting rights in the Society |
| (4) special library and archival privileges | (8) special invitations to Society occasions |

(Please Print)

Name

Address

Signature

Please check appropriate category and send your remittance to: Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217

-----Sustaining \$2.50 (Individual)

-----Contributing \$10.00

-----Patron \$25.00

-----Students (under 18 years) \$1.00

-----Life over 55 years \$50.00 single

-----Life over 55 years \$75.00 couple

-----Life under 55 years \$100.00 single

-----Life under 55 years \$150.00 couple



Class of 1936 Photo courtesy of Rosalind Rowe Chapman

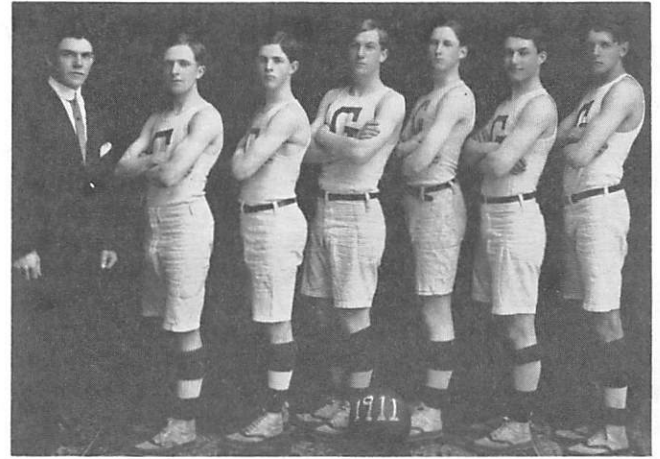


Study Hall, 1930s

HISTORIES OF GOULD ACADEMY

Eva M. Bean, HISTORY OF GOULD ACADEMY 1836-1961; TO SOW THE SEEDS: A HISTORY OF GOULD ACADEMY; Francis Parkman, THE GOULD ACADEMY STORY, 1836-1976.

Published quarterly by the Bethel Historical Society, Stanley R. Howe, Editor. Please address all inquiries and suggestions to Editor, Bethel Historical Society Newsletter, Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217. ISSN 0749-9108



Basketball Team, 1911



Science Class, 1930s

The Bethel Historical Society
P.O. Box 12
Bethel, Maine 04217

**U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 8
BETHEL, MAINE
04217**

